



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2006
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MONTANA MAN SENTENCED FOR RECEIPT AND POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

BILLINGS – Arthur Emil Sinerius, Jr., age 42, was sentenced today to a term of 180 months in federal prison in connection with his guilty plea to receipt and possession of child pornography. Sinerius was also ordered to pay a special assessment of \$200, forfeit his computer equipment, and will be under supervision for life.

In an Offer of Proof filed by the United States, the government stated it would have proved at trial the following:

In February of 2005, the Helena office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation received information that Sinerius was accessing child pornography on his home computer via the Internet.

A source reported that Sinerius spent several hours a day on the Internet chatting and viewing pornography, including child pornography. The source found printed photos of child pornography taken from the Internet in Sinerius' computer room.

On March 13, 2005, FBI agents executed a search warrant at Sinerius' residence in Helena. Found during the search was a computer and various removable media that he admitted he used to receive and possess child pornography. Also found were printed images of child pornography.

Forensic analysis of Sinerius' computer revealed numerous images of children engaged in sexually explicit conduct. When questioned, Sinerius admitted his role in receiving and possessing child pornography via the Internet. The images included known victims; children clearly under the age of twelve or prepubescent children; and images of sadism, masochism, or other depictions of violence.

Sinerius is a registered sexual offender, having been convicted in Montana state court in 1994 of sexually abusing a minor female child.

Because there is no parole in the federal system, the "truth in sentencing" guidelines mandate that Sinerius will likely serve **all** of the time imposed by the court. In the federal system, Sinerius does have the opportunity to earn a sentence reduction for "good behavior." However, this reduction will not exceed 15% of the overall sentence.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United

States Attorney Marcia K. Hurd prosecuted the case.

“This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys’ Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.”

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